

# Rhodora

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CONTENTS :

Two Northeastern Veronicas. <i>M. L. Fernald</i>	191
Valerianella in New England. <i>C. B. Graves</i>	195
Empetrum in Franklin County, Maine. <i>C. H. Knowlton</i>	196
Hieracium praealtum at Andover, Massachusetts. <i>A. S. Pease</i>	197
Crepis virens in Massachusetts. <i>J. R. Webster</i>	197
New Station for Polypodium vulgare, v. cambricum. <i>E. L. Shaw</i>	197
Plant Stations in Rhode Island. <i>W. W. Bailey</i>	198
Jasione montana in Massachusetts. <i>A. M. Scorgie</i>	199
A New Mushroom for the Market. <i>H. Webster</i>	199
Calluna vulgaris in New Hampshire. <i>W. Deane</i>	200
Destruction of our Native Flora.	200
A New Popular Field Book.	201
A New Local Flora.	202
Lists of New England Plants,—IX. Polygonaceae. <i>W. P. Rich</i>	203

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## THE NEW ENGLAND BOTANICAL CLUB

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### TWO NORTHEASTERN VERONICAS.

M. L. FERNALD.

VERONICA BECCABUNGA.

THE common Brooklime, *Veronica Beccabunga*, of Europe was well known to the older English herbalists as Broklempe or Broklympe and finally as Brooklime, a name which has been the subject of much conjecture among students of English plant-names; and by the German herbalists it was referred to as Bachbunge or Beccabunga. The plant according to Gerard, early in the 17th century, was eaten in salads in the same manner as watercresses, and like them occurred "altogether of his own nature wilde, desiring to grow in waterie places, and such as be continually overflowne, . . . by rivers sides, small running brookes, and waterie ditches."<sup>1</sup> The Brooklime seems now to be in less repute as a salad, for Syme states that "the leaves and young stems of the Brooklime were once in favour as an anti-scorbutic, and even now the young shoots are sometimes eaten as watercresses, the two plants being generally found growing together. They are perfectly wholesome, and might be more frequently employed but for prejudice."<sup>2</sup> And though the plant is not now of much account in medicine it was, as stated by Syme, highly valued in the 16th and 17th centuries as a remedy for scurvy, and "the leaves boyled, strained, and stamped in a stone morter with the pouder of Fenugreek, Linseedes, and roots of marish Mallowes, and some hogs grease, unto the forme of a cataplasme or pultesse, taketh away any swelling in leg or arme; wounds also that are ready

<sup>1</sup> Gerard, Herball, ed. Johnson, 621 (1633).

<sup>2</sup> Syme, Engl. Bot. vi. 170 (1876).

to fall into apostumation it mightily defendeth, that no humor or accident shall happen thereunto."<sup>1</sup>

In the earlier floras of eastern America, such as those of Pursh and Bigelow, we find a plant described as *Veronica Beccabunga*, and under this name the American Brooklime was known until, in 1846, Bentham took up<sup>2</sup> a manuscript name of Schweinitz's and established the American plant as *Veronica americana*, Schweinitz,<sup>3</sup> a species which differs from the European *V. Beccabunga* in its more ascending habit, more pointed leaves, and longer more slender pedicels.

Since the distinctions between the European plant and its commoner American representative were pointed out the name, *Veronica Beccabunga*, has dropped from our literature. It was, therefore, peculiarly interesting to Mr. Emile F. Williams and the writer to find, in August last, the true European Brooklime, *V. Beccabunga*, thoroughly at home about Quebec. During a two-days' visit in that quaint historic region we drove for some miles both south and north to the scenes most accessible to the transient visitor. While following in Wolfe's Cove the famous ascent to the Plains of Abraham we were attracted by a *Veronica* growing perfectly prostrate and repent in the roadside ditch. The plant, with its prostrate and freely branching stems and blunt-oblong or rounded glossy leaves, looked, at first glance, so like a mass of stolons of *Mentha piperita* that it was only upon closer inspection that we realized that we had the Brooklime of European floras. The same plant was later seen in abundance in the brook which empties over a high fall from Spencer Wood into Wolfe's Cove, and it was noted in roadside brooks and ditches as far southward as we drove, through the village of Sillery. The next day, in driving to Montmorenci, we saw the Brooklime

<sup>1</sup> Gerard, l. c.

<sup>2</sup> Benth. in DC. Prodr. x 468 (1846).

<sup>3</sup> In the Synoptical Flora Dr. Gray includes *V. intermedia*, Schweinitz, Am. Jour. Sci. viii. 268 (1824) as a synonym of *V. americana*. The name *V. intermedia*, was published by Schweinitz, in a list of the rarer plants of Easton, Pennsylvania, for a plant "commonly called beccabunga." Were it quite clear that Schweinitz referred to the plant subsequently called by him *V. americana*, the earlier name, *V. intermedia*, would have to be taken for that plant. But according to Bentham (l. c.) the name, *V. Beccabunga*, was often used by early American authors for *V. Anagallis*, and since this species is well known to occur at Easton it is very probable that by *V. intermedia*, Schweinitz referred to *V. Anagallis* and not to *V. americana*.

equally abundant in the village of Beauport, fully eight miles, as the crow flies, from Sillery; and there as elsewhere it grew in "small running brookes, and waterie ditches."

Though *Veronica Beccabunga* is now thoroughly at home about the city of Quebec it was apparently not seen by either Michaux or Pursh<sup>1</sup> in their wide travels through Canada, and it has not apparently been noted by later botanists. In the limited and thickly populated district where it is now known to occur it is associated with many other plants obviously introduced from Europe, and there is no reason to suppose that the European Brooklime is indigenous in Canada. In view of its wide repute in Europe as a remedy for scurvy and other pestilent diseases and its use as a salad during the 17th century, it would be interesting to know whether *Veronica Beccabunga* was intentionally brought to America by the early French settlers of Quebec. If this were the case, however, it is strange that the plant escaped the eyes of both Michaux and Pursh.

#### VERONICA SERPYLLIFOLIA.

In June, 1898, while botanizing along the Aroostook River at Masardis, Maine, I was impressed by the remarkable development of *Veronica serpyllifolia* in the alluvial soil of the river-terraces. Not only was the plant much larger than any form of *V. serpyllifolia* with which I had been familiar but its flowers, often a quarter inch broad, were deep blue with violet stripes, not the pale or whitish color we know in the small-flowered plant of Massachusetts grasslands and roadsides. At Masardis and, as it proved later, at many other points in the Aroostook and St. John valleys this showy blue-flowered *Veronica* abounded on river-terraces or in rich open woods, often brilliantly coloring the ground for many rods. Like *V. serpyllifolia* this plant of northern Maine had many strongly decumbent branches, but these were frequently quite a foot in height, while the leaves were sometimes a full inch in length. Material of this plant was collected at various points in the valleys and a special watch was kept for the ordinary *V. serpyllifolia* of southern New England. This, however, was not seen, and when, upon returning to Cambridge, the large plant was compared with it, a point of distinction formerly

<sup>1</sup> The *V. Beccabunga* of Pursh, from Pennsylvania to Virginia, was probably *V. americana*.

overlooked was detected in the material. While the ordinary whitish-flowered plant of southern New England had the rachis of the slender raceme and the pedicels minutely puberulent with fine gray hairs, these parts in the blue-flowered plant of the north bore longer viscid hairs.

A comparison with European specimens has shown this blue-flowered glandular plant to be well known to Old World botanists who treat it sometimes as a distinct species, sometimes as a variety of *Veronica serpyllifolia*. The plant was first described in 1794 by Dickson as *Veronica humifusa*,<sup>1</sup> though it had formerly been included by Lightfoot in his *Flora Scotica* as *V. alpina*,<sup>2</sup> but later treated by him merely as a form of *V. serpyllifolia*.<sup>3</sup> To Dickson, in 1794, it was known in the Scotch Highlands only "upon very high mountains, and under wet shady rocks, where the *V. serpyllifolia* never occurs." In 1838, Sir William Hooker, whose discriminating eye detected many plants long since overlooked in America, noted the plant as *V. serpyllifolia*, var. *humifusa*,<sup>4</sup> from the Rocky Mountains. In 1839, Laestadius described the same plant from Lapland as *V. serpyllifolia*, var. *borealis*,<sup>5</sup> and under this name it was recorded from the Venetian Alps and illustrated by Reichenbach.<sup>6</sup> By Hooker & Arnott the plant is called *V. serpyllifolia*, var. *alpina*,<sup>7</sup> while by Babington,<sup>8</sup> Syme,<sup>9</sup> and some others it has been taken up as a sub-species under the original name of Dickson.

Since this glandular-hairy blue-flowered plant was originally noted in Maine much herbarium material has been examined and the plant has been watched in the field; and as a result of this study it seems that, while strongly marked in its extreme form, the plant too often approaches the typical *Veronica serpyllifolia* to warrant its separation as a distinct species. As a boreal variety, however, the blue-flowered form is certainly well marked in America, and it should be called *V. serpyllifolia*, var. *humifusa*, Hooker. In fact, the evidence now at hand indicates that this large-flowered variety is the only indigenous form of *V. serpyllifolia* in Northeastern America. The true *V. serpyl-*

<sup>1</sup> Dickson, Trans. Linn. Soc. ii. 288 (1794).

<sup>2</sup> Lightfoot, Fl. Scot. 72.

<sup>3</sup> Lightfoot, l. c. 1138.

<sup>4</sup> Hook. Fl. Bor.-Am. ii. 101 (1838). <sup>5</sup> Laest. Nov. Act. Soc. Ups. xi. 211 (1839).

<sup>7</sup> Hook. & Arn. Brit. Fl. ed. 8, 305 (1860).

<sup>6</sup> Ic. Fl. Germ. xx. 44, t. 1718, fig. iv.

<sup>8</sup> Man. Brit. Bot. ed. 5, 249 (1862).

<sup>9</sup> Engl. Bot. vi. 158, t. 979.

*lifolia* with small pale flowers and puberulent, not glandular-hairy, racemes occurs commonly from Newfoundland to Ontario and Michigan and south to the Gulf of Mexico, but so far as I have observed in New England and Eastern Canada it is always in the neighborhood of towns, and oftenest in lawns, roadsides and cultivated or old fields. Occasionally it occurs in woodlands but there it is usually by roads or paths where its occurrence suggests possible introduction.

The larger-flowered glandular var. *humifusa*, on the other hand, is perfectly at home in mountain woods and by streams, and in natural meadows far from settlements, and a study of the accumulated material shows it to be the common form in such situations over a broad range. As now known, the plant is found from Labrador and Newfoundland to the White Mountains, and southeastern New York; and from Colorado, Utah and southern California north to Alaska.

GRAY HERBARIUM.

VALERIANELLA IN NEW ENGLAND.

C. B. GRAVES, M. D.

IN the spring of 1901, through the kindness of Miss Mary F. Crofton, I received a few specimens of a *Valerianella* collected by Miss Edith M. Shelley of Waterford, Connecticut. The immaturity of the material did not admit of a positive determination of the species, and I did not get an opportunity that season to investigate it further. Last June, following Miss Shelley's directions, I visited the locality from which the plants came. The abundant material collected then proves the plant to be *Valerianella radiata* Dufr.

The station is in the town of Waterford on the east bank of Niantic river, which is here salt. The species is abundant on the slope of the gravelly terrace, reaching from just above high-water mark nearly to the top of the bench, and extending along the shore for about a quarter of a mile.

The bank at this point is covered by a low shrubby tangle made up chiefly of poison ivy, grape vines and climbing bitter-sweet, and in the midst of this and especially along its lower edges the *Valerianella* grows freely. Among the other plants associated with it *Triosteum perfoliatum* L. and *Galium Aparine* L. are noticeable.

It has every appearance of being indigenous here. Upon this point Miss Shelley writes me: "My father has known of its growing there for all of twenty-five years."

I may add that the identification has been confirmed by Dr. Greenman of the Gray Herbarium, who has also kindly supplied me with the following facts regarding the occurrence of the genus elsewhere in New England.

As shown in the Gray Herbarium the genus *Valerianella* is represented in New England by specimens collected by Mr. C. L. Shear at Stockbridge, Massachusetts, June, 1891, and also by specimens secured near Springfield, Massachusetts in July, 1892, and communicated to the Gray Herbarium by Mrs. Maria L. Owen. These two plants, however, differ from typical *Valerianella radiata* Dufr. in having the fruit quite glabrous instead of pubescent, and hence well represent the form *V. radiata* Dufr., var. *leiocarpa* Krok.

The species has been reported from Chenango County, New York, by Coville,<sup>1</sup> and is said to have been collected by Prof. Peck at New Baltimore, Kings County, New York; but no record appears to have been hitherto made regarding the occurrence of either the species or the variety in New England.

#### NEW LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

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THE OCCURRENCE OF *EMPETRUM* IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, MAINE.  
— As a note to Mr. Fernald's article on *Empetrum*,<sup>2</sup> I would add the following, based on field observations made in Franklin County, Maine, the past summer:

*Empetrum nigrum*, L., there grows best in peat-moss, and the prostrate habit is not particularly prominent, as most of the branchlets are sub-erect.

*E. nigrum*, var. *andinum*, DC., prefers as a soil the gravel formed by the decomposition of coarse granite, usually containing very little vegetable matter. It is spreading in habit, and forms large prostrate mats. On July 16, in company with Mr. E. B. Chamberlain, I discovered a new station for this plant, on Bald Mt., Perkins, two or three miles north of the lesser Saddleback, where I found the plant in 1899. This variety grows here in the greatest luxuriance, espe-

<sup>1</sup> Bull. Torr. Bot. Cl. XII, 53.

<sup>2</sup> RHODORA, iv. 147.

cially on the northern slopes, and it descends on the mountain at least as low as 1500 ft. Bald Mt. has a probable elevation of 2000 feet.

Owing to the cold wet spring the flowers seem to have blighted and I gathered no satisfactory fruit of either species or variety. There seems to be a general paucity of fruit this year among the mountain plants in Franklin County.—C. H. KNOWLTON, Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

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**HIERACIUM PRAEALTUM AT ANDOVER, MASSACHUSETTS.**—In the early summer of 1901, in a dry pasture in Andover, Massachusetts, I noticed a *Hieracium* which seemed unfamiliar to me. This year, from the same locality, I obtained specimens which, when compared with others in the herbarium of Mr. Walter Deane, proved to be *H. praealtum*, Vill. The station has increased greatly in size since 1901, but prompt action may perhaps avail to stamp out this pest, I shall be interested to know whether this plant has been previously found in Massachusetts.—ARTHUR STANLEY PEASE, Andover, Mass.

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**CREPIS VIRENS IN EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS.**—*Crepis virens*, L. (determined by Dr. J. M. Greenman of the Gray Herbarium) grows sparingly in the grass border of the boulevard near "Soldiers' Field," Brighton. Dr. Greenman tells me that this species has lately been reported from Franklin, Massachusetts, by Miss Rhoda L. Mann.—JOSEPH R. WEBSTER, North Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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**A NEW STATION FOR POLYPODIUM VULGARE, VAR. CAMBRICUM.**—While climbing the wooded slope of the unburned peak of Western Mountain, Mount Desert Island, Maine, on August 12th last, I was greatly surprised to come upon a peculiar polypody with deeply scalloped pinnae. The plant was locally so abundant that after picking some fronds I threw them aside for others with more deeply lobed pinnae. Unfortunately I had carried no collecting box, so that many of the fronds were lost before I returned to Seal Harbor. Two of those which were saved were sent to the Gray Herbarium where an examination has shown them to be the rare *Polypodium vulgare*, var.

*cambricum*, Willd. This plant, originally described from England, has been recorded by Mr. B. D. Gilbert in his Working List of North American Pteridophytes from only Connecticut and New York, and I am informed by Mr. M. L. Fernald that it has not before been reported to him from Maine.—ELSIE L. SHAW, Lexington, Massachusetts.

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SOME NOTABLE PLANT STATIONS IN RHODE ISLAND.—As long ago as 1879, our indefatigable co-mate, Mr. Arnold Green of Providence, reported finding *Leptopoda brachypoda*, Torr. & Gray, about Butterfly Factory in Lincoln, Rhode Island. Our first specimens are of that date, and ever since we have been able to collect the species at that place. It must have been reported to the authorities at Cambridge, one would think, yet there is no record in the last edition of the Manual concerning its occurrence in Rhode Island.

During these years it has slowly but steadily increased, but in a recent visit I have been surprised to find it actually "booming."

The plant, now known as *Helenium nudiflorum*, Nutt., has spread largely in the original locality, whence it extends sporadically northward along the Lime Rock Road. About a mile and a half up this road there is a triangular lot, something less than a quarter of an acre, covered with it to the exclusion of all else. It makes a very showy appearance with its winged stems, orange rays, and chocolate cone-shaped disks. There is enough of it to provide the herbaria of the world, and it has evidently come to stay.

The original locality, one of those chosen spots described in my "New England Wild Flowers," is a very interesting one, extremely romantic in its natural features of hill, ravine, rocky cliffs, and summit lake; it was stocked by the original owner with extra-regional plants. Many of these still prevail, like *Trillium grandiflorum*, *Robinia hispida*, etc. The place is somewhat carefully conserved and signs warn the visitor not to root up plants, break trees, or pluck flowers. This rule is not made cast-iron, however, against those who will present credentials or even decently ask for privileges. A receptacle is provided for disjecta of mince-pies and the like. According to legend this spot was a favorite resort of King Philip and his tribe of Indians. It is a little piece of New Hampshire set down in southern New England. The rocks in the neighborhood

for over a mile are clothed with *Sedum acre*. At our last visit, *Polygonum Virginianum* was in bloom and abundant.—W. WHITMAN BAILEY, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island.

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JASIONE MONTANA IN MASSACHUSETTS.—This summer I found a single plant of *Jasione montana* growing wild at Wareham, Massachusetts. It was on a sandy slope in a field about two hundred feet from a railroad track and near an inlet of Onset Bay. The nearest habitation was an old farmhouse about a fourth of a mile away, and there were no other houses in the vicinity. I first saw the plant August fourth, when it was blooming freely and it was still blooming September sixteenth when I left Wareham.

*Jasione montana* has been abundant for several years on Conanicut Island, Rhode Island, and it once appeared as a transient weed in a nursery at Reading, Massachusetts.<sup>1</sup> Although it is not established at Wareham, the appearance of the plant there may be worthy a definite record.—ANNA M. SCORGIE; Radcliffe College.

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A NEW MUSHROOM FOR THE MARKET.—For some years several species of mushrooms, gathered from the fields, have found a ready sale in the Boston market. Among these, in addition to the common *Agaricus campestris*, are *Coprinus atramentarius*, *C. comatus*, and *Tricholoma personatum*. My attention has recently been called to the selling of *Lepiota naucina*. This toadstool is sometimes abundant in rich grass land, and within a few years has appeared in unusual size and numbers in the grass plots along the new parkway around Soldiers' Field, on the Boston side of Charles River near Cambridge, Massachusetts. Here, in company with *Lepiota Americana*, and the white form of *L. cepaestipes*, it has called forth the wondering inquiries of passersby, for the number and size of the fungi has been truly astonishing. This year the locality is regularly visited in the early morning hours by assiduous collectors, so that the display of mushrooms, so conspicuous a year or two ago, is in a measure prevented. One of these collectors has found that *Lepiota naucina*, in the button stage, is salable at fifty cents a pound. He is quoted as saying that he has known ten pounds to appear over night.—H. WEBSTER, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

<sup>1</sup> J. F. Collins, Bull. Torr. Cl. xxiii. 212.

CALLUNA VULGARIS IN SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE.—Through the kindness of Mr. Clarence H. Knowlton of Chelmsford, Massachusetts, I am enabled to add *Calluna vulgaris* from New Hampshire to my list of New England *Ericaceae*. A cross should be entered for this State, as Mr. Knowlton has sent me specimens of the plant. These were accompanied by the following note under date of September 21, 1902:—"While on a botanical excursion in Pelham, N. H., Sept. 13, 1902, my attention was called by chance acquaintances to a small clump of heather. It grew in moist grass-land beside the so-called 'mammoth road,' the old-time stage-route from Boston to Concord, N. H., less than half a mile from the Massachusetts line. It grew across the road from a house, but not in a place where it would be set as a garden plant. The present occupants of the place have no knowledge of the time of introduction, and it has probably been in existence for several years. The new electric line from Lowell to Pelham passes the bush, which seems to have suffered from hard usage during the construction of the railroad. This is, I believe, the first record of the plant in New Hampshire."

I have now seen *Calluna vulgaris* from Maine (Cape Elizabeth), New Hampshire (Pelham), Massachusetts (Andover, Halifax, Nantucket, Tewksbury and West Townsend), and Rhode Island (Great Island). If it grows in Vermont or Connecticut, the vigilant botanists of these States will not leave it long undiscovered.—WALTER DEANE, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

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DESTRUCTION OF OUR NATIVE FLORA, A PLEA FOR INFORMATION.—Now that public interest in the protection and preservation of our native plants is being aroused, it is most desirable that full and accurate information should be obtained in regard to the causes threatening the extermination of our more beautiful and rarer wild flowers in different parts of our country. Some of these causes will be found inevitable, some preventable; all of them need study. Information especially should be obtained in regard to the depredations, often tortious, on our plants for commercial purposes. With facts before us some effective action may be taken, while ultrasentimental arguments accomplish nothing. Realizing this need of collecting evidence relating to the needless destruction of our flora, the Society for the Protection of Native Plants has recently appointed a

Committee to receive such evidence and to report on any cases which may be thus brought before it. All persons who are able to send details and information concerning cases of depredation upon our plants, are earnestly requested to communicate with the Chairman of this Committee, Nathaniel T. Kidder, 610 Sears Building, Boston, Mass.

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A NEW POPULAR FIELD Book.<sup>1</sup>—The past summer has given those who wander afield in search of flowers an opportunity to test the helpfulness of a little pocket field-book by Mr. F. Schuyler Mathews. Written from the point of view of a lover of nature, and of an artist who keenly appreciates the beauty and individuality of every plant he treats, it offers itself as a charmingly companionable guide to a first acquaintance with our wild plants. To a first acquaintance, we say, for, although a botanist of experience will find here and there a suggestion that may be new and a lesson or two in the accurate naming of colors, he will be less inclined to use the book himself than to wish it well and to recommend it to friends less well informed. Yet it is perhaps well to remember that thorough botanists are few in comparison with the increasing host of intelligent observers who are looking for accurate information, not too difficult of acquirement, in regard to our wild flowers. To this large class of summer enthusiasts, amateur collectors, and even to the serious student who is beginning to make a herbarium, Mr. Mathews's book will be very welcome.

In size, the book is made to conform to the requirement that it "must fit the narrow limits of our pocket at all hazards." In saying this the author is perhaps forgetting that most of the users of his book may be so unfortunate as not to have a pocket for any book at all. But it will certainly go into a Boston bag or other substitute for the masculine receptacle. The make-up of the book is well suited to the field use for which it is intended. Every right hand page bears a clear-cut drawing in black and white of a species, often of two or three, described in the opposite text. In the margins of the text, the

<sup>1</sup> Field Book of American Wild Flowers — being a Description of their Character and Habits, a Concise Definition of their Colors, and Incidental References to the Insects which Assist in their Fertilization. By F. Schuyler Mathews, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1902.

common names, the colors, and the flowering season, stand out in heavy-faced type, with the Latin names in italics. The descriptions are brief, and, so far as is consistent with accuracy, are freed from technicalities. With the descriptions are incorporated a variety of notes, among which those on the relations of the plants to insects present a novel and suggestive feature. This matter is emphasized in the introduction, and by two introductory plates that show the commoner butterflies, bees, and flies concerned in the cross-pollination of flowers. A commonly neglected line of observation is thus constantly kept before the student.

The illustrations of species are the most striking and useful feature of the book. Of these there are over four hundred—a few being colored. The pen and ink studies, as the author calls them, show a charming grace and facility of drawing; but more than this they most happily present the characteristic look of the living plant. The very droop of the leaves, the turn of the stem, the familiar pose of the plant, are admirably caught and preserved. After studying them one can only regret that every plant mentioned in the text can not have had the same accurate, sympathetic interpretation. But in a field book, or pocket manual, space is limited. We find, therefore, that many plants are omitted altogether. The common, the conspicuous species, that may be met from Maine to Virginia are there—that is to say, the common flowers. Trees, shrubs, except a few, and also grasses and sedges are missing—and obviously there is no room for them. By its title, the book excludes them.

A captious reviewer, with dogmatic convictions on matters of botanical controversy, or a stickler for scientific form and precision might be inclined to be severe with certain things about this book—for it is a popular book. For such a critic, however, the book is not intended. Others will find in it the help they seek, and something more.

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A NEW LOCAL FLORA.—Messrs. Charles Humphrey Bissell and Luman Andrews have just issued a Flora of the Town of Southington, Connecticut and its Vicinity.<sup>1</sup> The work, which is an excellently printed octavo pamphlet of more than a hundred pages, is

<sup>1</sup> Connecticut School Document No. 15, published by the State Board of Education, 1902.

an annotated list of the fern and seed plants, which grow without cultivation in the area covered. Under each species and variety the scientific name is followed by a careful statement of the peculiar habitat, abundance, time of flowering, and finally the citation of one or more numbered herbarium specimens. Common names, notes as to habit, and a judicious synonymy are added in many cases. Statistical summaries, including a comparative table showing the numerical relation of the flora of Southington to that of Vermont, appear at the end, together with a map and good index. Although the territory covered contains but thirty-six square miles, no less than twelve hundred and one plants are enumerated. The authors show themselves familiar with the latest taxonomic work in America and treat with excellent discrimination the recently proposed species which happen to come within their limits. The authors' "invariable rule has been to admit no name that has not an extant specimen back of it." The work throughout shows exceptional care in arrangement, typography, and proof-reading. It is safe to say that no more critically prepared flora of so limited an area has appeared in America. While the authors have scrupulously avoided making new combinations, they have introduced the following herbarium names, to which it may be well to direct attention: *Aster macrophyllus*, var. *ianthinus*, Fernald (*A. ianthinus*, Burgess), and *Cirsium altissimum*, var. *discolor*, Fernald (*Carduus discolor*, Nutt.).

#### PRELIMINARY LISTS OF NEW ENGLAND PLANTS,—IX. POLYGONACEAE.<sup>1</sup>

W.M. P. RICH.

[The sign + indicates that a herbarium specimen has been seen; the sign — that a printed record has been found.]

	Me.	N. H.	Vt.	Mass.	R. I.	Conn.
<i>Fagopyrum esculentum</i> , Moench. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" <i>tataricum</i> , Gaertn. . . . .	+	+	+	+		
<i>Oxyria digyna</i> , Hill. . . . .	+					

<sup>1</sup> Printed in RHODORA as supplementary material.

	Me.	N. H.	Vt.	Mass.	R. I.	Conn.
Polygonella articulata, Meisn. . . . .	+	+		+	+	+
Polygonum acre, HBK . . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" " var. leptostachyum, Meisn.	+	+	+	+	+	+
" amphibium, L. . . . .	+	-	+	+	+	+
" " var. Hartwrightii, Bissell.	+	-	-	+	-	+
" arifolium, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" aviculare, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" " var. littorale, Koch. . . . .	+	-	+	+	+	+
" Careyi, Olney. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" cilinode, Michx. . . . .	+	+	+	+	-	+
" Convolvulus, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" cuspidatum, Sieb. & Zucc. . . . .	+	+		+		+
" Douglasii, Greene. . . . .	+	+	+			
" dumetorum, L. . . . .				+		
" erectum, L. . . . .	+	-	-	+	+	+
" exsertum, Small. . . . .					+	+
" Fowleri, Robinson. . . . .	+					
" Hydropiper, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" hydropiperoides, Michx. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" " var. strigosum, Small. . . . .	+			+		
" lapathifolium, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" " var. incanum, Koch. . . . .	+	+		+		
" maritimum, L. . . . .				+	+	
" Muhlenbergii, Watson. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" orientale, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" pennsylvanicum, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" Persicaria, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" prolificum, Robinson. . . . .	+	+		+	+	+
" ramosissimum, Michx. . . . .				+		
" " " forma atlant- . . . . .						
ticum, Robinson. . . . .	+			+	+	+
" sagittatum, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" scandens, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" tenue, Michx. . . . .	+			+	+	+
" virginianum, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" viviparum, L. . . . .	+	+	+			
Rumex Acetosa, L. . . . .	+			+		
" Acetosella, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" altissimus, Wood. . . . .	+	-		+	+	+
" Britannica, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" crispus, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" hastatulus Baldw. . . . .	+			+		
" obtusifolius, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+
" Patientia, L. . . . .	+	+	+	+	+	+

	Me.	N. H.	Vt.	Mass.	R. I.	Conn.
Rumex persicarioides, L. ( <i>R. maritimus</i> , L. . . . . of Gray's Manual). . . . .	+			+	+	-
" <i>salicifolius</i> , Wein. . . . .	+	+	+	-	-	-
" <i>verticillatus</i> , L. . . . .			+	+	+	

## NOTES ON THE PRECEDING LIST.

*Rumex sanguineus*, L. and *R. conglomeratus*, Murray have been occasionally reported from New England but no authenticated specimens have been seen.

The *Rumex verticillatus* of Rand & Redfield's Flora of Mt. Desert rests on a very immature specimen, which is certainly not the species named.

*Rumex hastatulus*, Baldw. This is the first record of this plant in New England. A little colony of it has existed for a number of years at Salisbury Beach, Mass., having been discovered by Alvah A. Eaton of Seabrook, N. H. The most eastern locality from which it has hitherto been reported is Northville, Long Island, New York.

*Polygonum aviculare*, L. Numerous forms of this very variable species, have been described but with our present knowledge of the plant it is thought best to refer them all to the species with the exception of the var. *littorale*, Koch. which is generally readily recognizable.

Possibly after more detailed study and observation some others of the described varieties may be found worthy of restoration.

*Polygonum arenarium*, W. & K. and *P. Bellardi*, All., two European species, have been collected at Providence, R. I., and at Boston, Mass., but are not yet sufficiently established to be included in our list. They should, however, be looked for around our Atlantic seaports.

*Polygonum orientale*, L. while undoubtedly a garden escape is so widely distributed as to warrant its recognition to a place in our flora and *P. cuspidatum*, Sieb. & Zucc., also a cultivated plant is every year becoming more common but as yet only in the immediate vicinity of gardens.

It is of interest to note the extension of the range of *Polygonum Douglasii*, Greene, heretofore known in New England only in Vermont. In the Herbarium of the New England Botanical Club are

specimens from Brownfield, Maine, collected August 22, 1896, by E. D. Merrill, and the writer has recently received the species from Alvah A. Eaton who collected it September 15, 1899, on Pautuckaway Mt., Nottingham, New Hampshire.

The two species of Buckwheat, *Fagopyrum esculentum*, Moench and *F. tataricum*, Gaertn. are such frequent escapes from cultivation and also from transportation by railways as to have become generally common, with the exception of the latter species which has not yet been reported from Rhode Island and Connecticut, although common in the northern part of our range.

While this list is far from complete it has been thought best to publish it at this time with the hope that attention being called to its incompleteness the desired information as to the occurrence of the various species can be more readily obtained.

*Vol. 4, no. 45, containing pages 171 to 190 and plate 39, was issued 17 September, 1902.*

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